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The Bell Ringer

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MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

DECEMBER 1980

Homecoming Weekend A Success

By GREG CARLSEN

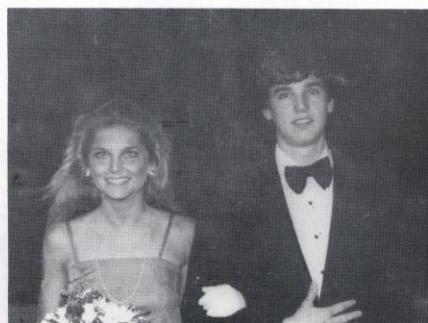
The 36th Annual MBA Homecoming and Spaghetti Supper, held on October 17, was a total success.

The turnout for the supper this year was 2400 people, 300 people less than last year. Considering the heavy rains which hampered the event, this was an excellent turnout.

The Ladies' Auxiliary spent a much larger amount of money (about \$2200) on promotion of the Homecoming Festivities this year than in previous years. As a result of the promotions, the total profit this year was \$16,800.

Ladies' Auxiliary Chairperson Carolyn O'Neal was especially pleased with the involvement and enthusiasm of the student body. One student whom she singled out in describing the involvement of the student body in the event was Jay Brothers, the top salesman with about \$700 in supper and chance ticket sales. A large number of pins, mugs, and caps are left over from the event; and these will be sold at future athletic events.

The inclement weather, though it did not result in the cancellation of the game, did dash the plans for the presentation of the Homecoming Queen and her Court. The presentation took place at the Hendersonville game the next Friday. Since the weather was also disagreeable at that time, Queen



Homecoming queen Peaches Salyer is escorted by Jody Lentz at the presentation of the Homecoming Court.

Peaches Salyer and her court were presented without using cars for escorts.

Many prizes were awarded during the Homecoming week end. Several of the major prizes were a year's membership to Westside Racquet Club, won by Mr. Weick, a ten-speed bicycle, won by French McKnight, and the grand prize, a 1981 Chevrolet Chevette won by Chris Stephens' girlfriend Laura Recher.

During the Spaghetti Supper, Mr. Womack's "mysterious structure" was revealed to be a 20 foot long reclining figure of an MBA football player. The waitresses, composed of friends and sisters of MBA students, did an excellent job of serving during the supper.

The Homecoming Dance on Saturday night was a tremendous success, largely because of the band "Contraband." Jody Lentz should be commended for the selection of the band, and we hope that "Contraband" will return to MBA in the future.

Among those who worked faithfully to make the weekend a success were David Felts, David Tune, Scott O'Neal, Trey Rochford, and Mike Hughes, who helped during the preparation and clean-up of the event.

Of course, special thanks must go to all the members of the Ladies' Auxiliary who spent countless hours attempting to make the event a thoroughly enjoyable and most successful Homecoming.

Second Of A Series On Faculty Views**Coach Owen Talks About Student Attitudes**

By DON FAIRBAIRN

Mr. Tommy Owen, one of the most respected members of the Montgomery Bell Academy faculty, recently revealed some of his thoughts concerning the school in an interview with The Bell Ringer. In this interview, Coach Owen addressed topics such as students' attitudes and school spirit, the role of athletics and other extracurricular activities in one's personal development, and some of the projected changes in the school for the future.

The Bell Ringer: What do you think is the role of MBA in preparing young men for college and for life?

Coach Owen: I think the role of MBA is the same now as it has always been, that is to prepare boys academically to get themselves into the college which they want to attend. Also, MBA can hopefully prepare young men socially and athletically to perform and be able to compete in a society that is becoming

more and more difficult to live in every day. With the right kind of leadership and activities associated with MBA, hopefully we will be able to fulfill those goals.

The Bell Ringer: What part do you think athletics plays in one's personal development?

Coach Owen: I think that a young man who has been associated with competitive athletics has several advantages over someone who has not had that opportunity. I think sometimes not as many young men here at MBA avail themselves of what is really here for them to take part in. By taking part in competitive sports, young people have opportunities for leadership and responsibility, and I hope more people will take advantage of these opportunities and not just be scholars while they are at MBA.

The Bell Ringer: What do you believe is your responsibility to the

students of the school, as a coach and a teacher?

Coach Owen: I think the teacher's responsibility is to be the best teacher he can be, to be well prepared, and to be informative in the classroom. I think it is the coach's responsibility to make himself as highly qualified as possible in the sport with which he is associated. This is an area where I believe we need to improve. I think some of the coaches are very dedicated to trying to improve their coaching ability, but I do not think some of the others are as dedicated. Obviously this is because they are primarily classroom teachers and their role in the athletic program is not their major concern. I think this is what their role should be as outstanding teachers; but in an independent school where all of the male teachers are involved in athletics at some time in their career, they owe it to the students to try to improve their coaching ability and be as highly qualified as they can be.

The Bell Ringer: What is your opinion of the school spirit and attitude of the students at MBA?

Coach Owen: I think generally the attitude of the students is good, but I think it could be better. There are too many times when the students do not come to support the athletic teams because they have other



things to do. I feel that one who is a part of this school needs to support the school in as many ways as he possibly can. I think the support of our football team has been pretty good, but I think it could be a lot better. It is unfortunate that the student body does not support the winter sports teams to any great degree because the basketball and wrestling teams are very competitive, and they need and deserve the support of the student body.

The Bell Ringer: How do the football teams of recent years compare to teams you have coached in the past?

Coach Owen: I have felt really good about most of the teams with which I have been associated. Sometimes we have not been blessed with very

much talent, and some years we have not done a very good job of coaching; and at the end of the season we haven't felt very good about those teams. Fortunately, we got off to a pretty good start in 1980, and I think the teams we have had in the last few years have been very comparable to the teams of the fifties and sixties. Often the degree of competition and the amount of talent available at any time have a great bearing on how successful a team is, but I think the attitude and dedication of the players have remained pretty much the same. I think this is attributable to the winning tradition in football at MBA, a tradition which gives the players a great deal of pride in their team and gives MBA an edge over some of the teams we play.

(continued on page 3)

Forensics Excels

By CRAIG FRANKLIN

The Forensics Program has continued its tradition of success. Under the new leadership of Mr. Mike Kidwell, the debate squad has had many successes this semester.

The first tournament of the year was at Austin Peay State University. After four rounds of competition, the team of Craig Franklin and Wyatt Wells captured third place with three wins and one loss to Overton. The next weekend, at the Maplewood tournament, the team of Matt Cassell and Robert Brandau received fifth place with a perfect 4-0 record. The last local tournament attended was in Paris, Tenn. The Franklin/Wells team got third place after losing again to Overton in semi-finals.

The first out of state tournament the Forensics squad attended was in Florence, Alabama at the Mars Hill Bible School. After five rounds of competition, both varsity debate teams had 3-2 records. Matt Cassell

and Lyn Robbins were able to advance into elimination rounds where they lost to John Gibbons and Tim Wheat from Griscom High School. In the Open Division, Johnny Heer and Robert Brandau received first place.

After returning from Mars Hill, the squad attended the Madison Overton Tournament on November 1. In Extemporaneous Speaking Scott Haynes received second place while Alex Grimsly received third place. In Varsity Debate, Craig Franklin and Wyatt Wells won first place, and the novice team of Sam Chang and Brian Hassel won third place in their first varsity outing.

The last tournament attended was MTSU. After preliminary rounds in varsity debate Cassell-Robbins had a 5-1 and then lost in semi-finals receiving third. In Novice debate, Tony Rafalowsky received first place speaker. The entire squad has won 69 percent of its rounds, and everyone hopes to improve it in the future.

Mr. Jefferson explained that they will now be able to tape programs off

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Audio-Visual Equipment Promising

By ROBERT COONEY

New audio-visual equipment in the form of the Advent Video Beam 761 and Panasonic 16 JO Programmable Video Cassette Recorder is now in use. This equipment, which came thanks to a gift from Mr. David Wilson, creates opportunities for teachers to use quality television programs in their instruction. This equipment will also give students an opportunity to see programs that are shown at inconvenient times.

Mr. Jefferson explained that they will now be able to tape programs off

the television and show them back to students. Most of these programs, he noted, would come from Channel 8, the area's education TV station, though quality programs or specials on the commercial networks might also be recorded.

The two Departments expected to make the most use of this equipment are the English and Science Departments. Currently the English Department is taping the Shakespeare Series, while the Science Department is taping both Nova and Cosmos, two PBS programs.

After taping programs, teachers can show them to their students during class time. They will be able to take full advantage of the six foot

screen and the 70 degree viewing area to enhance viewing pleasure.

Because it works from a timer, the machine allows programs to be taped no matter at what time they are shown.

At one time the school had considered tying into the cable TV system, Viacom, which is now available in Nashville. However, Jefferson said, the video tape system would have required a special adapter to tape off the cable TV system so the idea was shelved for the time.

Jefferson said that the system will enhance significantly the opportunity available to students and faculty alike and should serve to enrich the program of instruction.

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John Erwin backpacks with the Outing Club.

Letters To The Editors

To the editors:

I've been at MBA for 6 years now, and my stay has been the most rewarding experience of my life. I've enjoyed life on the hill since 7th grade.

However, a recent problem may cause MBA life to be less pleasant for many students. I am referring to the destruction of school property that has occurred in the Trophy Room and in the bathrooms of the Library and Wallace Hall.

I'm not going to rattle on about how immature this vandalism is, but I do want to inform the student body of the grave consequences that can result from these stupid acts.

The faculty and administration is prepared to strip the students of any privileges that they deems necessary to take away. The student council is trying hard to convince the faculty that the student body is worthy of these privileges. Continual vandalism in the Trophy Room and other areas of the school only aggravates the situation.

If the culprit(s) is (are) not found, the student body as a whole will be punished for the vandalism.

Therefore, please don't destroy school property! You will not only be hurting your friends but you will also be hurting yourself.

I will graduate in a semester; therefore, denied privileges will not affect me as much as they will affect others. As I said!

As I said, I have enjoyed everything about MBA; I just hope

that MBA will be just as enjoyable for these present underclassmen and future students. So, think before you act, you may be screwing others to the wall!

Anderson Spickard

To the editors:

It has just been recently that I have noticed how ridiculous the library is. The Trophy Room being closed, I've had to study in the library. During one day on which I had two different tests, I asked a friend to help me with a few questions I was having. We thus took the one book we needed to study and went into the History Room.

Five minutes later, Mrs. Simmons told us to leave because no books are allowed in the History Room. When asked why no books were allowed, she replied that if books were allowed, the next step would be writing dirty words on the furniture like in the Trophy Room.

Realizing we could not argue with this kind of reasoning, my friend and I went into the listening room. Two minutes later we were again thrown out by Mrs. Simmons. She said that only listening to records is allowed in that room. When asked why, she retorted she was just stating the rule.

As a last resort, we went to the Lobby of the Library by the copy machine. The room was empty. Yet we were thrown out of there because Mrs. Simmons said that if someone were in the room, we would be bothersome to them. When I pointed out that no one was in the room, she said that it did not matter.

I thus ask: Shouldn't some of these rules be changed? If one has gained the privileges of using the History Room shouldn't he be able to bring a book in it? I sometimes think that Mrs. Simmons' view of a perfect library is one without anyone in it. The MBA Library is not as much a place for enlightenment as it is a place for mindless conformists to rules.

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Outing Club Braves Ocoee

By BARRY STREET

For twenty-two of MBA's most adventuresome and daring students, October 3, 1980 was a very cold and exciting day. It all started at 8:30 a.m. when we piled into the school van to begin our four hour drive to the Old Copper Inn in Ducktown, Tenn., from which we would launch our attack on the

much feared Ocoee River.

Those of us who had participated in the same trip in 1979 were much relieved to find that the Smokey Mountain River Expeditions, our professional guides, had replaced their flatbed shuttle truck with a true-to-life bus; thus, the ride between the Old Copper Inn and the river was much warmer than last year's ride.

After a short safety talk and a ride to the river we distributed ourselves in the three rafts and proceeded down the river. Those who were new to the sport, immediately found themselves eagerly looking forward to each hole and, believe it or not, loving being wet in 60 degree weather.

All the way down the river, the big question was, "Who is going swimming at the calm stretch?" At first, everyone was reluctant to even think about swimming in that freezing water; but, when we reached that part of the river, everyone was already so wet that we all decided to take a dip.

Even Mack went swimming with a little help from his friends.

After everyone had tumbled back into the rafts, our guides informed us that the fun was just beginning. They commanded our rafts safely through all of the remaining rapids, shoals and holes, the most impressive of which was "Hell's Hole." No one was worried about this hole until we dropped inside it. In front of us was a ten foot solid wall of water which was only one of the three surrounding us.

After emerging from this hole, intact and 100 percent, we became convinced that we had conquered the Ocoee River and that we had mastered the sport of rafting.

After loading the boats back on their trailers, we changed into warm, dry clothes and began our long journey home. Look out Chattanooga, you're next.

Coach Owen Talks About Student Attitudes

(continued from page 2)

Bell Ringer: Do you recall any players you have coached who have gone on to be extremely successful in life?

Coach Owen: Many of the players from some of the earlier teams have gone on to be very successful, and I think that is an indication of the kind of background that MBA has provided.

Bell Ringer: How do you think MBA has changed since you have been here?

Coach Owen: I personally don't think that MBA has changed that much. Everything is relative to the time period, and I think the demands made by MBA on a student twenty-five years ago were very much the same relative to that time as the demands made by MBA on a student today. I think we are more selective in choosing students now than we used to be, and in some ways, I think we are too selective.

Bell Ringer: Are there any changes you would like to see in the future?

Coach Owen: As I was just saying, I think we're too selective in our admissions process. I think we need to find out a little bit more about a person before we make a decision because many times the person who

scores well on tests is not the one who is going to make the biggest contribution to the school. I believe that each boy should try to contribute to the school as much as he possibly can. I am also interested in giving students as broad an education as possible. I think the MBA education has gotten a little too narrow, and I think every student at this school should be exposed to art and music in some form. I believe that if one is not exposed to these types of things during his early years, the chance of him learning them later is very, very small.

Bell Ringer: What do you think the future holds for MBA?

Coach Owen: Hopefully we will be flexible enough to move our program along to meet the needs of the community and the needs of the people who come to this school. We have a plan underway now to improve the overall facilities of the school, both the academic and athletic facilities. I think MBA will continue to be a leading academic school, and that when this century is over, MBA will still be the number one school in the South.

Bell Ringer: Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the improvement of the school?

Coach Owen: I think the students need to have a much greater concern in taking care of the campus and the buildings and to have a greater respect for their fellow students. I think about 95 percent of the people are well intentioned in this respect, but unfortunately that other 5 percent causes the school a great deal of grief sometimes and creates a black mark on the reputations of all those connected with the school. I hope that in the years to come we will improve in this respect.

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Destruction On Campus Widespread

By ROBERT COONEY

Problems surrounding the use of the Trophy Room as well as other phases of student behavior have become a topic of discussion around the campus in recent weeks. A great deal of the controversy around the losing of the Trophy Room in November after some derogatory words were found written on the sofa.

This incident was the climax of a problem that had been with us since early in the year. Assistant Headmaster Mike Drake said that there had been, for instance, problems with the destruction of the new chairs. He said "Some of the destruction was inadvertent and some was deliberate. Some of the chairs were damaged because the students failed to realize that because they way the arms were made they could not be pushed under the table." Drake, however, added, "You could also see where people had put compasses and ball points through the chair." Chewing tobacco was another contributing problem.

The actual incident which brought about the closure of the room, Drake theorized, must have happened sometime during 6th period. The room had been checked several times 6th period and nothing unusual had been noticed.

At the beginning of 7th period a staff member entering the room to clean saw the words. Thus, Drake concluded, "It must have happened at the end of sixth or just before the start of seventh." The words, he said, "could have been intended to be against one staff member who had entered the room several times

during 6th period and who the students thought might have seen some violation of school rules occurring."

Two more words were found upon further investigation. "After my sixth period class, I went in there and someone said, 'look over here.' Upon looking further we found two more words on the back and side of another couch."

After discussing the situation with Student Council President Hartley Hall, the Administration, at Hall's request, closed the room. Hall was especially upset since only the day before in assembly the Student Council had said they would have meetings and find a solution to the Trophy Room problems. Hall requested an assembly without Faculty in the hopes some information might come forth that that meeting and another subsequent with students who may have been in the Trophy Room that period have thus far not yielded the identity of the guilty party or parties.

Drake said "that the Trophy Room will have to be reopened soon due to the coming of the cold weather." He suggested that it would re-open in modified form. He mentioned that the doors might be taken off or kind of back-up study hall established. Here people would be able to study together and there would be a proctor. "No more of those games," a reference to the paper football games and games with tennis balls which have occurred in there in the past.

Asked why if the problems had been going on since the first of the year, no action was taken until early November, Drake responded, "That

there had been individual action period by period." He said, "a large thing in assembly might just cause an incident," which, he noted, is just what may have happened.

Turning to some of the other problems with student behavior and the destruction of school property, Drake admitted that "dipping is getting worse" and there was a bad trend with the respect to property. He spoke of the writing of derogatory words in the carrels in the library and the problems with words being written on the staff doors in the bathrooms. The doors have been taken down while being fixed. Drake said, "they will be put back up." All the doors had to be painted and one door required a new part. Drake said one student "played Godzilla" with the door.

Since mostly people on the Merit list and Privilege list use the trophy room, Drake was asked to comment on the rumor that there are a number of the Faculty who liked to see the lists eliminated or changed. He confirmed these rumors. But said, "It has to do mainly with the Merit List." "Some teachers," he said, "see many students with just border line grades out of study hall, they get 4 or 5 notes home but they are still out of study hall." Notes are sent home at 73; however, removal from the merit occurs only when grades fall below 70 or for excessive demerits.

Student reaction to the entire trophy room situation is mixed. Most students express concern and like Student Council President Hartley Hall, feel the problems in the trophy room are immature. As one student said, "This action (writing the words) was so immature,



Alabama Shakespeare Festival Players demonstrate fighting techniques of classical acting at Shakespeare Day held at Harpeth Hall. That evening, the actors performed *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, one of Shakespeare's early comedies.

irresponsible person or persons." Some did however, express concern about when the trophy would be reopened or as one put it, "if it would be turned into another faculty lounge." Mr. Drake set the record straight on that account. The taking away of privileges, a subject of great concern to Mr. Drake, seems to cause a lot of uproar within the student body. One of the students who is privileged might be affected, said, "If they cancel my privileges, I am leaving." As of yet, no definite steps have been taken towards concluding these problems. Mr. Drake says that the problems are not new, however, he does seem to indicate that they are becoming serious and more frequent; now the question is whether or not this trend will pass.

The Crow's Nest

Trick or treat! Springwater's late Halloween costume party won by MBA's own Steve Williams. Said several stunned patrons of Springwater that evening in a tribute to Williams' costume, "I had no idea it was him." . . . Bloodmobile visits MBA campus, leaves with ten pints of good blood, one pint weeny blood compliments of Mr. Herring. Said Herring after regaining consciousness, "I've got to quit going to the Met on school nights." . . . Noted linguist Dr. Joseph P. Collins on campus investigating a new variation of English discovered on a recent visit to MBA. He explains, "I was strolling across your campus when I happened to overhear the most intriguing conversation I've ever heard. Here's how it went, 'Boy, I'm up about this bowl game,' said one student. His friend replied, 'Yep, I'm up as none other.' 'Course, I'm pretty hot under the collar about the Ryan game,' came the reply. At which point the second boy made the most amazing statement: 'I'm green about that too.' I searched him all over for signs of a greenish hue but could find none. During the course of the conversation, both boys made strange hand motions which had previously been observed in certain tribes of Australian Aborigines. The conversation concluded with one boy saying, 'We'll be dealing in that bowl game, won't we?' His comrade said as they walked off, 'Yeah, I'm up as never before over it.' I was totally stunned at finding so bizarre and backward a dialect in the continental U.S. For the moment, I have dubbed this language football speak. More on this as it develops."

The MBA chapter has scheduled several events for the coming school year. These include: carding for Fannie Battle Day Home just before Christmas; setting up a Christmas party for the children at Martha O'Bryan Day Care Center; and collecting money to fund the research on Multiple-Sclerosis in the spring.

FCA: Athletes Serving Christ

By PAGE GARRETT

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is a fellowship through which ordinary people help each other become better men and better examples of what the Lord can do with a "yielded" life.

The purpose of Fellowship of Christian Athletes is "to confront athletes and coaches, and through them, the youth of the nation, with the challenge and adventure of following Jesus Christ and serving Him through the fellowship of the church and in their occupations." It exists to serve Christ through the church.

Athletes and coaches throughout high school and college make up the local unit or chapter of FCA. However, adults in the community are also a part of these chapters. The adult members assist their chapter in primarily two ways:

- 1) They provide a grounds for Christian fellowship.
- 2) They give permanence and stability to the chapters in the community.

These chapter members are business men, coaches, clergymen, former athletes, and others who are interested in carrying out the purpose of the FCA by willingly contributing their time, talents, and/or means.

Two good examples of these adult members are Mr. Jefferson and Jeff Wilson who is a student in his last year at the Vanderbilt Divinity School and the minister at Bellevue Christian Church.

Mr. Jefferson has been the sponsor of MBA's FCA for seven years and the chapter hopes that he will continue in the future. Jeff Wilson is the chapter leader. Much of the chapter's success is due to their efforts. Through their selfless and constant dedication and leadership, MBA's chapter of FCA has become a bigger part of campus life. Not only has Mr. Jefferson been present at almost every weekly FCA meeting for several years, but he also attends the special events that take place at other times during the year. MBA's chapter is fortunate to have their guidance and participation.

The "huddle" is the name used for FCA groups meeting on high school campuses, and a "fellowship" is the name given to FCA groups meeting on college and university campuses. This huddle fellowship program is a group of athletes meeting to talk about their concerns, doubts, fears, feelings and faith.

For example, on a meeting night, a huddle or fellowship's regular meetings take place at the high school or college where its members go to school. At present there are 28 high school buddies and 3 college fellowships in Nashville. In addition, special events are sometimes planned at various churches and other sites throughout the midstate area.

The MBA chapter goes to an informal restaurant and eats dinner as a group. This makes for fun and a sense of fellowship. Next, after returning to MBA, there is either a guest speaker or the members of the huddle have a discussion on a variety of topics related to the Christian faith.

The general program emphasis is on Bible study, prayer, and discussion. From this base, each chapter is encouraged to reach out to other members of the community to positively influence them.

Each FCA chapter meets at a set time each week during the school year, usually on a week night. For example, the MBA chapter meets for 1½ to 2½ hours on Thursday nights. However, some special events take place on weekends and during the summer.

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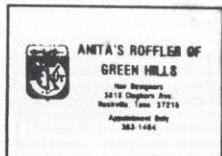
Major events in the past have



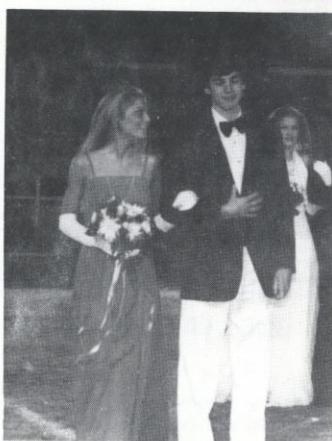
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Homecoming Festivities 1980



Seventh Graders Voice Impressions

By DON FAIRBAIRN

Most MBA students will agree that the most difficult part of one's MBA career is adjusting to the rigorous academic program upon entering the school in the seventh grade.

In order to obtain a more accurate perspective of the hardships involved in the seventh grade at MBA, *The Bell Ringer* has conducted a poll of this year's seventh grade class, in which each student was asked to write down his impressions of the first months of school here.

Almost to a man, the seventh graders cited the amount of work and the difficulty of the academics as the most prominent impression of the school. However, several students, mainly those who had heard about the school previously from brothers or other sources, said that the academic program was not as difficult as was played up to be.

Another comment made by nearly every person polled was that the teachers were very nice and understanding of the students' position. Many seventh graders mentioned that one of their greatest fears about coming to MBA was having to take English under Mrs. Bowen, rumored to be unmercifully strict in the classroom. However, most students found Mrs. Bowen to be quite understanding in class despite requiring stringent adherence to the disciplinary code.

Students cited many differences between MBA and the schools which they had attended previously, among them the great size of the school compared to elementary schools, the length of the classes, the athletic program and the tradition of athletic excellence, the hope that the hard work would pay off in amount of material learned, and the generally good quality of the food (Oh, how opinions change in six years).

Two of MBA's most prominent sets of regulations are the Honor Code and the Demerit System. New students' opinions of these two areas were sharply divided; most people thought that an honor system based on trust and personal integrity was a very good idea; whereas many students were dissatisfied with the disciplinary system, saying that it was unfair or arbitrary or just "stupid."

Many of the students gave very interesting responses, and the following is a fairly typical cross section of the impressions (rendered without the writers' names to avoid embarrassment to anyone).

I think Montgomery Bell Academy is a well-disciplined school which promotes much learning among the students. There is a strong feeling of competition and cooperation at Montgomery Bell Academy. I think it has a good honor system based on trust.

The seventh grade at Montgomery Bell Academy has not been as hard as it was rumored to be before I came. So far, I have not had to stay

up until midnight every night to finish my homework, and we do not have to write themes every week. Over all, Montgomery Bell Academy has been a very enriching, learning, and enjoyable experience.

I never knew it was so big. I also never knew it was so hard. I hate themes, and I hate finding the area of a trapezoid.

My first impression of Montgomery Bell Academy was Mrs. Bowen and her crazy antics.

I like being here in the seventh grade at MBA. It is really fun learning how to write themes and doing pre-algebra. The science

experiments are fun. Alcohol burners and chemicals are neat to work with. By seventh period I cannot wait for the great sports. So you can see the life at MBA is really terrific.

When I found out that I had passed the test at MBA, I was happy, yet scared. I had heard that you received three hours of homework and studying each day. The first day seemed never-ending. At my old school classes were only thirty minutes, so fifty minute classes seemed to take forever. But after the first few days, I grew to like MBA. I already know most of the kids in my homeroom, and I think the teachers are really nice.

New Christmas Albums

By TOM WOOD

The Christmas album deluge is upon us again. The major record companies' annual rush of new musical releases, timed to coincide with the Christmas buying season, is as prolific as ever this year, and there is new music available to suit almost any taste. The following are some of the more prominent new albums:

EAGLES LIVE

—Probably the best of this new crop of music, the double album recorded in southern California proves that the Eagles are as competent on stage as on vinyl. May be the last we hear from them for a while, on account of singer Don Henley's recent drug bust in California. Highlights include Joe Walsh's "Life's Been Good," performed as only Joe can do it; the previously unreleased "Seven Bridges Row," written by Nashville's Steve Young, and a tremendous tenor sax solo on "The Long Run," as well as versions of such Eagles classics as "Hotel California," "Life in the Fast Lane," "Wasted Time," "Take It Easy," "Desperado," and "Take It to the Limit," among others.

FOOLISH BEHAVIOR

—Rod Stewart's new album seems to prove that he has outgrown his disco phase, and it is therefore one of his best efforts since *Faces* dissolved. The title cut is an amusing sort of corollary to John Entwistle's "My Wife," in which Rod describes his vivid detail how he plans to kill his wife. Whether he aimed this song at ex-girlfriend Britt Eckland, who revealed some embarrassing facts about Stewart in her memoirs, is debatable. The single "Passion" has nearly worn out its welcome on the airwaves, but it is not the best song on the album. That honor goes to "She Won't Dance With Me," an all-out, rowdy, party tune that defies of Hot Rod's use of a certain choice Anglo-Saxon expletive.

HOTTER THAN JULY

—The latest showcase of the musical genius of Stevie Wonder displays a singular diversity of influences. From the hint of a reggae flavor in "Rocket Love" to the country-

imitative vocals of "I Ain't Gonna Stand for It" to the funky blues sound of "Master Blaster (Jammin')," Wonder's instrumental mastery is always evident. He includes among the album's credits note thanking the Sony Corporation for inventing the Professional Digital Audio System, and with good reason. (That device basically allows an artist to overdub many more tracks of sound in the studio, with a minimum of tape noise.) Wonder uses this capacity to overdub to its utmost potential; on most of the songs he is, excepting horns, strings, and background vocals, the only performer. He plays numerous synthesizers, bass, drums, clavinet, harpsichord, harmonica, and piano, and plays all masterfully. The album is as diversified lyrically as it is musically, with not only the usual number of love songs, but also songs that make a social statement. "Cash in Your Face" deals with a black man's trials encountered in attempting to rent a nice apartment, while "Happy Birthday" is a plea to make Martin Luther King's birthday a national holiday.

HEART

—The new double album from the Wilson sisters consists of a compilation of their greatest hits (including "Baracuda," "Crazy on You," "Straight On," "Dreamboat Annie," "Even It Up," "Magic Man," "Heartless," and "Dog and Butterfly") as well as two new songs recorded in the studio and several others recorded live. The new single "Tell It Like It Is" has been climbing the charts; the other new studio recording is "Strange Euphoria." The live songs include "Bebe Le Strange," "Mistral Wind," "Sweet Darlin'," and a medley of "I'm Down" and "Long Tall Sally," by Little Richard. Heart also renders Led Zeppelin's "Rock n' Roll," recorded live in Ann and Nancy Wilson's hometown of Seattle.

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Quarterback Jeff Gaw eludes a Brentwood Academy defender. The Junior Varsity Football Team completed the season with a six and three mark, defeating White's Creek, Hillsboro, Overton, Hillwood, Hendersonville, and Antioch.

John Lennon:

The Man And His Music

By BOBBY KHAN

It seemed as if John Lennon, the man who wanted to "give peace a chance," the man who had so many troubles with U.S. immigration authorities, the man who had so many lawsuits to face after the Beatles' breakup, and the man who remained a recluse for five years, was ready to emerge into the public eye again.

He, along with his wife, Yoko Ono, had just released an album, *Double Fantasy*. He gave many more interviews than before. There was a tour in the making. But it was not to be.

John Lennon was brutally murdered December 8, 1980, in front of his New York City apartment. Public reaction to his death was so tremendous that it surprised the press and his most devoted fans. But why? A detailed explanation is needed.

John Winston Lennon was born in Liverpool, England, on October 9, 1940. The son of a sailor who deserted his family before John was born, John Lennon grew up with his Aunt Mimi. He learned to play the guitar through banjo chords, and at 14, he formed a band, the Quarrymen. In 1962, Ringo Starr joined the group. Their first record "Love Me Do" was released that year.

1963 spelled the beginning of fame for the Beatles. They caused riots at their concerts, and their records were selling in the millions. They performed for the royal family of England at the annual Variety Show. Yet, by the end of 1963, they were largely ignored in America.

Finally, after a \$50,000 publicity campaign, the Beatles exploded in America. They were the first artists to write and perform their own music. From 1964-1970, the Beatles, with most of their songs written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, recorded such classics as "Hey, Jude," "Norwegian Wood," "I Am the Walrus," "Help!" and "Let It Be." Finally, in 1970, the Beatles broke up.

John Lennon commanded most of the publicity in the early years after the break-up. In 1969, he, along with his wife, conducted an extensive peace campaign against the Vietnam War. He arrived in the United States to live in 1971, but President Nixon, who felt that Lennon may be a hindrance to him, tried to deport Lennon because of an earlier obscure marijuana conviction. John Lennon, nevertheless, persisted in staying in America, and in 1976, he was given a permanent visa. Then, he virtually disappeared from the public eye until the summer of this year when Lennon announced the upcoming release of his new album, *Double Fantasy*.

All Beatle fans had a favorite Beatle, and my favorite of the four Beatles was probably John Lennon. His music was not as melodic or pretty as Paul McCartney's. However, his songs were almost always concerned about people, their lives, and their beliefs, as well as his own life and beliefs. Whether it's a song like "Imagine" or "Starting Over," everybody is concerned. This is why I, along with many millions, I'm sure, feel as if I have lost a friend.

As we enter the Christmas season, let us remember that this is a Christmas for "young and old," for "rich and poor," for "black and white." For even though John Lennon is gone, the one thing that he left to the world will always remain—his music.

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Anderson Spickard controls the ball during the Hillwood game.

Allman Brothers: A Blues Fan's Paradise

By TOM WOOD

The long-awaited return to the Music City of the Allman Brothers Band was virtually everything Nashville's blues purists had hoped it would be. The Brothers proved that neither a three-year separation nor personnel changes which leave only Gregg Allman, Dicky Betts, and Butch Trucks from the original band have detracted in the least from their ability to jam. When *Fillmore East* came out nine years ago, they were the best blues band in the world, and they still are.

The Atlanta Rhythm Section opened the show, and might have left a better impression if they hadn't worn out their welcome with a set lasting an hour and a half. A.R.S. led off with "Cahmpagne Jam," and the set included such pass hits as "Not Gonna Let It Bother Me Tonight," "Cocaine Charlie," and "Spooky" (a song with which several in our entourage well identified). The group's rendition of "Imaginary Lover," their biggest hit, was the highlight of their set. Midway through the song, one realized that it had the same rhythm as the Rolling Stones' "Miss You," and then the band spontaneously went into that Stones' song. This added some originality to what was at times a rather stale show. The boys from Doraville finished with "Large Time" and invited themselves back out for an encore, "Doraville," before departing for good.

Somebody had done a fine job of organizing this event, for the crowd was even kept amused during the usually boring intermission between sets. Two inebriated patrons in

Section G provided the entertainment with a pugilistic conflict that would put Dunn and Leonard to shame. I felt somewhat like a Roman at the Coliseum, as the crowd was riveted on these modern gladiators. The crowd saved its most vociferous adulation for the fighter who took a poke at the Metro cop who was brave or foolish enough to try to escort him away. The men in blue then descended to prevent a riot (aw, shucks) and removed those responsible for the disturbance to the lower level of the auditorium, where they were, no doubt, intimately acquainted with the billy club.

The Allman Brothers Band took the stage to thunderous applause and began with what turned out to be the musical highlight of the evening: a medley of "Don't Want You No More" and "It's Not My Cross to Bear." The searing guitar licks of Dicky Betts and Dangerous Dan Toler, combined with Greg's keyboards and haunting vocals, made this medley one of those unforgettable concert moments that one still remembers years later. The band did Allman's "Can't Take It With You" and "Need Your Love So Bad," as well as Dicky's "Blue Sky" and the first of several virtuous instruments, "In Memory of Elizabeth Reed."

An addition of dubious merit to the songs was a menagerie of various state-of-the-art electronic devices, including a Mellotron, electric piano, keyboard synthesizers, and some sort of handheld synthesizer, all operated by Nashvillian Mike Lawler. The electronics added a dimension to songs from the Brothers' latest album, *Reach for the Sky*, which are written around the weird sound effects. These effects did not seem to complement, however, such basic blues classics as "One Way Out," "Southbound," and "Whipping Post."

High points of the show included Jimmy Hall's guest harmonica appearance on "Southbound," the band's rendition of "Angelina," from *Reach for the Sky*, and the closing number, the classic "Whipping Post." A disappointment was the

among them Pen Caldwell, Tim Ford, and Mike Hutcherson, to the varsity level.

Past MBA basketball teams have not performed well early in the season, and this team proved to be no exception. The Big Red opened the season by traveling to rival BG A after only two weeks of practice since the Nurseryman's Bowl. MBA took an early lead and led at the end of the first quarter 13-10, but the well-disciplined Wildcats soon took control of the tempo of the game, and MBA's lead vanished into a 21-17 deficit at halftime. The Big Red shot poorly throughout the evening, shooting only 35 percent in field goals and 36 percent from the free throw line. In addition, despite Mike Anderson's eight rebounds, MBA was outplayed and outsize around the basket, and the game ended with BGA the victor 48-40. Leading the scoring in the losing effort were Anderson Spickard with 15 points and Mike Anderson with 10.

In the next game, MBA hosted a very talented Glencoe team, expected to challenge for the District Championship this year. The squad showed improvement defensively, but continued poor shooting and the superior height of the Colts led to a second defeat by a score of 61-49. Anderson Spickard led the team offensively with 20 points, while Mike Anderson once again led the Big Red in rebounds with 11 caroms. Scott Ture, Tim Ford, and Mike Johnson allowed MBA to seal its first victory of the season by a score of 54-46. Captain Anderson Spickard led all scorers with 17 points, while Mike Anderson scored 16 points and had 13 rebounds, and Scott Ture added 10.

Despite the slow start, the Big Red basketball team has shown steady improvement and several players have performed very well. As the team gains experience and iron out some of the early-season problems, MBA should once again be capable of competing with the best teams in the district.

Bike Race To Return

The Bell Ringer is proud to announce its Second Annual Spring Bike Race to be held in February. This year's event should be as exciting as last year's. The course, sixteen laps around the campus, requires speed along the library drive, skill in dismounting and shuffling across the creek, and endurance in the cross-country biking.

The teams for the event are each made up of four members and can be sponsored by a club or school organization or be an independent team. Last year's winners were "The Road Hackers"—Steve Stephens, Alex Grimsley, Mike Hughes, and Dan Jones. Their winning time was 30 minutes, 54.49 seconds.

As the time for the race draws closer, further details concerning rules and regulations will be forthcoming. The announcement of the exact date will be made as soon as possible.



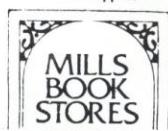
Bobby Morales moves the ball around end against Brentwood Academy.



Tom DiVittorio returns an interception during the Homecoming victory.

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Big Red Football Wins Five Straight

By KEVIN MALER

Having lost two consecutive games to McCallie and Ryan, the Big Red entered the Overton game desperately needing a victory. The team got the victory by soundly defeating a young Overton team. The offensive line took control of the game early, with Wade Smith, Jim Tully, and Rob Lineberger receiving much attention for their outstanding play. The line paved the way for Mark Daniel to gallop for 118 total yards, including one touchdown. Kris Klausner added another with a 32-yard reception from Scott Tune. Billy Rolfe turned in a miracle TD, snatching up a Mark Daniel fumble and running it 48 yards for a TD. The Big Red's 317 yards total offense put MBA back on the winning trail.

Hillwood

MBA went into its homecoming game facing a much publicized Hillwood-Bellevue team. The Big Red put aside this hype, however, and easily defeated the Toppers on a muddy, rain-soaked field. MBA got on the board first with Scott Tune's 46-yard pass to a squirming Ken Downey. In the second quarter Daniel and Rolfe both put in touchdowns from 2 and 4 yards,

respectively. The Big Red came back in the second half with another score when Scott Tune hit an overpowering Mike Johnson from the 14. Late in the fourth quarter, however, the Toppers threatened with two "Hail Mary" passes for touchdowns. It was too little too late, however, as the clock expired; the Big Red was rolling with a 4-2 record.

Hendersonville

The Big Red now faced the arm of Tommy Stamps and the hands of Cowboy Lancaster as well as the largest line the team had played against thus far in the game with Hendersonville. However, the Big Red overcame these obstacles and fought to 14-10 victory. After a long drive, MBA got on the board 7-0. The Commandos came back with 10 unanswered points. In the fourth quarter, Scott Tune broke an incredible 80 yard run to put MBA ahead 14-10. With three minutes on the clock the Big Red defense held Hendersonville, culminated by Whitfield Hamilton's and Ally Fuqua's sack to turn the ball over and insure the victory by a narrow margin.



Steve Stephens runs his best time in the Region V Cross Country Tournament.

Cross Country Wins Weenie Bowl

By MARTIN BROWN

On November seventh, a clamorous clan of cross country meadow frolickers defeated a gutsy group of golfing gamblers twenty-three to fourteen in a football game. Although some players showed real talent, others showed why they run and play golf instead of playing football.

The standout at running,

catching, and passing for the cross country team was their captain Anderson Spickard. He was more than a major part of their offense.

Both teams scored mainly on passes. Tim Ford buzzed a pass to Mike Hutcherson to score first for the golf team. However, the cross country team came back on a run for a touchdown made by Anderson Spickard. The runners proceeded "to deal" on the golfers. Steve "the Snake" Anderson threw for touchdowns to Anderson Spickard and Wade Elam. Rich "Tough as Nails" Good chalked up two points for cross country on a safety. Yet, the golf team started a comeback by scoring in the fourth quarter on a quarterback sneak by Mike Anderson. Their drive was too late, however, for the golf team did not score again.

Both coaches were important because they played as well as coached. Coach Robert "Macho" Pruitt directed the cross country team. Dr. "White Shoes" Fairbairn coached the golf team.

Some M.B.A. runners received honors at the end of the season. Walt Zibas and Rich Good were on the All-N.I.L. Second Team. Allen Moore, team captain Anderson Spickard, and Steve Stevens received honorable mentions for the All-N.I.L. team. Rich Good, Anderson Spickard, and Steve Stevens were also on the All-AAA Western Division first team. Martin Brown was a member of the All-AAA Western Division second team.

When asked about this year's team, Coach Michael Drake said that the team was slightly short on competitive depth. "I am not disappointed with the effort only the outcome," said Coach Drake.

The coach answered a question on how the loss of Allen Moore, the team's fastest runner for the first half of the season, affected the team. "Statistically, it cost M.B.A. the N.I.L. crown; however, for the Region V meet, motivation was also a factor," Coach Drake said.

Overall, the coach said that he has no complaints, because the team made a super effort.

Coach Drake said the "B" team ran extremely well. The "B" team's



Scott Tune leads the offense during the Antioch battle.

Antioch

The Big Red, in an emotional game unofficially dedicated to Kevin Maler and John Wagster, defeated a young but quick Antioch team. Scott Tune scored twice in the first quarter and Scott Haynes ended the half by adding a wobbly 17-yard field goal. In the third quarter, Rolfe added another TD. After a pass interception and touchdown by Garrett Fulton, MBA ended the game with the victory by a score of 31-0.

Glencliff

MBA concluded the regular season with its sixth consecutive victory, a 28-6 triumph over the Glencliff Colts at Frank Andrews Field. The team's performance was less than stellar; otherwise, the margin of victory might have been much greater. The offense fumbled on the first two possessions and graciously refused an attempt by the Colts to give away the game on a silver platter with an anemic 14-yard punt that gave MBA possession at their opponent's 20. A missed field goal attempt smothered this opportunity. After a fumble gave

them back the ball at Glencliff's 22, MBA finally scored on Billy Rolfe's 11-yard stampede. Wieck's kick failed, and the score stood 6-0.

Mark Daniel's three-yard run with 4:29 remaining in the second quarter capped a methodical 41-yard drive. A two-point try failed; MBA led 12-0.

With only 14 seconds left until halftime, Scott Tune passed to Kris Klausner for a 9-yard touchdown to cap a 9 play, 49-yard run that was all Scott Tune. Tune intercepted a Glencliff aerial at the 49, then switched to offense and hit Ken Downey and Mike Johnson to set up the score. A pass to Downey

accounted for the conversion.

The Big Red scored once more after controlling the ball for most of the third stanza. Tune's one-yard run and subsequent conversion run gave MBA an insurmountable 28-0 lead. The Colts finally got on the scoreboard with a 66-yard bomb late in the game.

With a regular-season record of 8 wins and 2 losses, the Big Red was invited to participate in the Nurseryman's Bowl. This honor typifies the fine season for the team as it proved its abilities on the field.

Cross Country Performs Well

By MARTIN BROWN

The varsity cross-country team placed second in both the N.I.L. and the region. M.B.A. also qualified for the state meet.

The cross-country team went into the second half of the season with a 5-1 dual meet record. M.B.A. then defeated Overton to capture the AAA Western Division crown for the fourth straight year. The team ran in the Lipscomb Invitational before entering the N.I.L. and regional competitions.

Sophomore Walt Zibas ran the state meet's best time of 15:52 at the state meet. Rich Good was the second fastest team member with a time of 16:08 in the Region V meet.

Some M.B.A. runners received honors at the end of the season. Walt Zibas and Rich Good were on the All-N.I.L. Second Team. Allen Moore, team captain Anderson Spickard, and Steve Stevens received honorable mentions for the All-N.I.L. team. Rich Good, Anderson Spickard, and Steve Stevens were also on the All-AAA Western Division first team. Martin Brown was a member of the All-AAA Western Division second team.

The "A" team finished fourth behind powerful Hillwood in this meet on an unusual course. MBA's top runner withdrew from the meet because of painful stomach cramps. Walt Zibas, another sophomore, finished first for MBA despite falling behind the whole team after losing a shoe early in the race. Rich Good and Anderson Spickard placed fifteenth and nineteenth respectively.

Steve Stevens and Martin Brown finished in twenty-ninth place and forty-ninth place.

Leading the "B" team to a first place finish in the Division II meet, freshman Chris Guzikowski placed fourth. Rick Sullivan, Nick Fabian, John Levy, and Mark Oldham rounded out the top for M.B.A. All five runners finished in the first twenty overall.

N.I.L. Meet

Led by captain Anderson Spickard's tenth place finish, MBA outclassed all of the twenty-one teams in the N.I.L. except for Hillwood. MBA's first four received trophies for their finishes in the top

thirty places. Anderson's time of 16:10 was his best for the season. Walt Zibas and Rich Good placed fourteenth and fifteenth respectively. Steve Stevens placed twenty-first, and Martin Brown placed forty-sixth.

The "B" team's first five runners were in the first fifteen overall although no one recorded the score of the "B" team meet. Rick Sullivan, Chris Guzikowski, Nick Fabian, Wade Elam, and Mark Oldham were M.B.A.'s top five.

Region V Meet

MBA finished second in the Region V meet to Hillwood and qualified for the state meet. While leading the team with a tenth place finish, Walt Zibas ran a time of 15:54, the third fastest time ever recorded by a MBA sophomore. Richard Good, Steve Stevens, Martin Brown and Steve Anderson also ran their best times of the season. Rich Good placed fourteenth and Steve Stevens placed eighteenth. Anderson Spickard and Martin Brown placed thirty-first and thirty-seventh.

Led by Nick Fabian's seventh place finish in the "B" meet, the "B" team also ran well. Chris Guzikowski, Robert McConnell, John Levy, and Steve Hines rounded out M.B.A.'s first five.

State Championship Meet

MBA placed twelfth in the state. Only Walt Zibas, whose time was 15:52, ran his best time of the season.

Walt led the team with his thirty-ninth place finish. Rich Good placed fifty-first, and Anderson Spickard placed sixtieth. Allen Moore returned to the team with little training and placed sixty-eighth. Steve Stevens placed eighty-fifth.

Varsity Basketball:

January Schedule

Jan. 2	Lipscomb
Jan. 6	Pearl
Jan. 9	Antioch
Jan. 10	Goodpasture
Jan. 16	Hillsboro
Jan. 20	Goodpasture
Jan. 23	Glencliff
Jan. 30	Overton